#### **CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

#### 1. A method, comprising:

refusing, by a drive, to provide information from a first surface of an optical medium when required information on a second surface of the optical medium cannot be read.

## 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

reading, from the first surface, information that indicates that information on the second surface is required.

## 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

refusing, by the drive, to provide information from a data surface of the optical medium when required information on an external surface of the optical medium cannot be read.

#### 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

refusing, by the drive, to provide information from a first data surface of the optical medium when required information on a second data surface of the optical medium cannot be read.

### 5. An optical medium, comprising:

a first surface, the first surface having an indication that information on a second surface is required; and

information on the second surface corresponding to the indication on the first surface.

# 6. The optical medium of claim 5, further comprising:

the first surface being an internal data surface; and the second surface being an external surface.

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7. The optical medium of claim 5, further comprising:
the first surface being an external surface; and
the second surface being an internal data surface.

8. The optical medium of claim 5, further comprising:
each of the first surface and the second surface being an internal data surface.

9. The optical medium of claim 5, further comprising:

the information on the second surface comprising a bar code.

10. The optical medium of claim 5, further comprising:

the information on at least one of the first and second surfaces comprising data in a control block.

11. The optical medium of claim 5, further comprising:

the information on at least one of the first and second surfaces comprising data encoded in groove wobble.

12. The optical medium of claim 5, further comprising:

the information on at least one of the first and second surfaces comprising data embedded within other data.

13. The optical medium of claim 5, further comprising:

the information on the second surface comprising variable information.

14. The optical medium of claim 13, further comprising:

the information on the second surface comprising a unique identifier of the optical medium.

15. A drive for optical media, comprising:

a controller, the controller transferring, externally to the drive, information from a first surface on an optical medium, only when required information can be read on a second surface on the optical medium.

16. A drive for optical media, comprising:

means for detecting that information on a first surface of an optical medium is required; and

means for refusing to transfer information, externally to the drive, from a second surface of the optical medium, unless the required information on the first surface can be read by the drive.